GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1056
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2000
SANCTIONS LINKED WITH CTBT / NUCLEAR TEST BY U.S.
PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the latest progress between USA and India with regard to CTBT;

(b) whether the Indian Government has been asked by the US Government to expedite the CTBT Declaration or otherwise India will be deprived of certain support from U.S.;

(c) if so, whether it is linked with sanctions that have been imposed by U.S. after our nuclear test; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)
(a) India`s position on the CTBT was articulated by the Prime Minister in the UN General Assembly in September 1998 and in Parliament in December 1998. This was reiterated by the External Affairs Minister at the UN General Assembly in September 1999. That remains the Government`s position on the CTBT in its talks with key interlocutors, including the United States. After the rejection of the CTBT by the US Senate, the US administration has reiterated its commitment to its moratorium on nuclear testing and has pledged to continue to persuade the Senate to ratify the treaty.
(b),(c)&(d) The US imposed certain restrictive economic measures on India following our nuclear tests, on the basis of US domestic law. In our bilateral discussions, we have conveyed that such measures are unjustified and all such measures should be lifted as these are counterproductive from the point of creating a positive environment.